

ABSTRACT

A data transfer apparatus and a data transfer system are provided that can reduce the cost of installing communication equipment compatible with each of several dissimilar communication protocols in one exchange office and can reduce the cost of

- 5 constructing the network. The data transfer apparatus includes a data reception device (110) that receives packets that comply with dissimilar communication protocols from upstream data transfer apparatuses (51, 52, and 53); a content data extraction device (120) that extracts content data included in the packets; a line selection information storage device (130) that stores the line selection information for selecting
- 10 communication lines that comply with dissimilar communication protocols; a line selection device (140) that selects the communication line compatible with content data based on the line selection information; and a data transfer device (150) that transfers data to downstream data transfer apparatuses (61, 62, and 63) that are connected to the communication line that has been selected by the line selection device.